



Executive Headteacher: Mrs J Fraser

William Morris Primary School
William Morris Way
Tadpole Garden Village
Swindon
Wiltshire
SN25 2PP

Date: 17th January 2025

Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you had a very merry Christmas and a happy start to 2025. It has been lovely to see the children back together enjoying exciting activities to start learning about new topics. We are also looking forward to visitors coming into school over the next two weeks including an Explorer Dome visit for years 3 and year 5.

Have a lovely weekend,
Mrs Fraser, Headteacher



Open House and Fab Finishes

Since we have opened, we have run a termly tradition for parents, carers, families or friends to come and look at their children's work on class displays and in books to keep up to date with their progress and learning. We understand that working parents and carers may not be able to attend these on a termly basis, but we would like to reiterate that any friend or family member is welcome to visit. If children do not have an adult visiting then a member of staff will take the time to look through their books with them.

In addition to this, we also organise 'Fab Finishes' for each year group twice a year. This is more of a celebration which parents and carers might like to prioritise as a chance to see their children present in front of an audience. The Fab Finishes are at the same time as Open House at the end of each term at 2:00pm—specific dates will be shared nearer the time.

Nursery: Term 6 Graduation

Reception: Term 5 Food Glorious Food

Year 1: Term 3 Superheroes—see diary dates

Year 2: Term 5 Forest Schools

Year 3: Term 3 Our Planet Our World—see diary dates

Year 4: Term 4 Vikings

Year 5: Term 4 Tudors



Big Garden Birdwatch

The RSPB big garden bird watch will be taking place on the 24th—26th January. For more information, please use this link: [Big Garden Birdwatch](#)



Knowledge Organisers

The children will be enjoying learning about new topics as we start a new term. Knowledge organisers for maths and other subjects are available on the class pages on the school website.

Wraparound Care Payments

From January 2025 wraparound care needs to be paid for in advance in order for families to retain their fixed places rather than paying for sessions in arrears. Thank you to families who have cleared outstanding balances and are now paying in advance for sessions. **Unfortunately if outstanding balances are not cleared and payment not made in advance, then fixed places will be withdrawn. The School Office Team will be in contact with families with wraparound care accounts that have a negative balance to advise that places will be withdrawn if payment is not made.** If you are experiencing financial difficulties and would like to discuss agreeing a repayment plan, please speak to Mrs Fraser, Mr Price or Mrs Dixon for a confidential discussion.

School Lunch Payments



We have noticed that if children have outstanding balances for lunch payments, lunch bookings are automatically cancelled by Parentpay meaning that parents believe their child has a booked meal, however children are not on the lunch registers. Please ensure you pay ahead or at the time of booking for school lunches to prevent this if your child does not receive free school meals.

Safeguarding Curriculum

This year we have begun to introduce the Blue Kite Academy Trust safeguarding curriculum into lessons across all year groups from Reception. This is being implemented across all primary schools in the Trust. We have include the areas into our Life Skills curriculum, which is personalised to our community and children and is based around skills & achievements, experiences & behaviours. Our Life Skills curriculum supports our children to become all round citizens. We have shared the details with Class Reps who have had detailed discussion of the subjects being covered. The safeguarding curriculum will be shared with children in a child-friendly, age appropriate way. Please see link below for our Life Skills curriculum:

<https://www.williammorrisprimary.co.uk/life-skills>

Food Bank Referrals & Citizen's Advice Swindon

January can be a particularly hard month financially for people after the expense of Christmas. If you are struggling to afford food, please remember that we can make Food Bank referrals if needed for families. Please speak to Mrs Fraser, Mr Price, Mr Boothroyd or Mrs Dixon and we can arrange the referral for you.



Citizen's Advice Swindon offer advice on a wide range of problems including benefits, debt and money, for more information please see their web site <https://www.citizensadvicewindon.org.uk/about-us/>

Coffee Morning for Parents of Autistic Children

Please see the flyer on the final page of this newsletter if you are interested in attending a coffee morning for parents of autistic children. No diagnosis required.



Parents and Friends of William Morris Newsletter

This week's news...

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 1st Batik Workshop
May 5th Circus

Watch this space and keep an eye on the new PTA banner outside Yr1 for more events coming soon!

Happy New Year

We hope everyone enjoyed the Christmas break, and all the children are enjoying being back at school. Thank you to everyone for their support in the lead-up to Christmas. It was lovely to see the children enjoying all the festive fun!



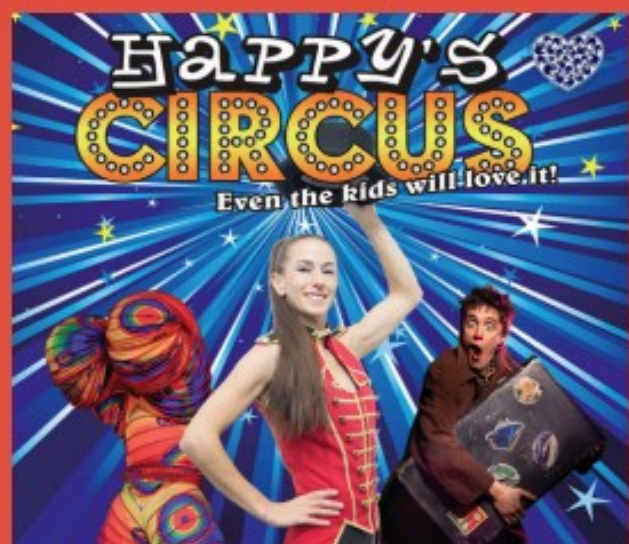
Do you work for Nationwide Building Society? If so, you are entitled to give £50 to your chosen charity. We would be so grateful if you chose us as your charity. Search for Parents & Friends of William Morris in My Social Impact.

Parents and Friends Of William Morris 2024/2025 Fundraising



£1,537

- Glamorose Cake van £34
- Grotto £298
- Carol Concert £78
- Christmas Disco £574
- Costume Sale £49
- Bags2school £53
- Bake Sale £250
- Cuddly Toy Sale £140
- Preloved School Uniform £41
- Oana's Cakes £20



★ COMING TO WILLIAM MORRIS ON THE
5TH MAY 2025
★
**EARLY BIRD TICKETS WILL BE
ON SALE LATER THIS MONTH**

As always, thank you so much for your support. All proceeds from our events go straight back to the school to provide equipment and resources.

Music Lessons

Swindon Music Cooperative provide teachers to schools to carry out 1:1 music lessons that parents pay for. At William Morris we have music teachers who teach on a weekly basis and offer lessons in piano and guitar. If you are interested in booking lessons for your child (children in Year 1 and above) or finding out more, please contact Swindon Music Cooperative. Miss Caple who teaches piano on Wednesdays at William Morris has a few lesson slots available if this would be of interest.



**1-1
Instrumental
music lessons
at school, online
or at home.**

*Piano, Drums, Guitar,
Woodwind, Brass and Strings.*

**Swindon
Music
Co-operative -
providing 1-1
instrumental
lessons in schools
across Swindon and
Wiltshire since 1998.**



Our aim is to develop each pupil's musical potential according to their individual needs and aspirations. Quality of teaching is monitored through regular observations of all our teachers.

For more information or to apply please scan the QR code below



Application form



More information

**Swindon Music Co-operative, Astoria House, 165/166 Victoria Road, Swindon, SN1 3BU
01793 781973 • info@swindonmusiccoop.co.uk • swindonmusiccoop.co.uk**

Gold Book

Well done to all of the children who were in the Gold Book this week — we are very proud of you and your achievements!



Golden Welly Award

The new Golden Welly Award is given as part of our OPAL provision. It will be awarded to children who have been seen playing creatively, kindly, cooperating well, persevering or playing imaginatively each week.

Well done to the 2 boys for winning the first golden welly!



SEND Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,



COFFEE & CATCH-UP

SEND parent coffee and catch-up.

What?
An informal chance to meet and chat with other SEND parents, with tea, coffee and biscuits/cake.

When?
Tuesday 2nd January
3pm
Drop in, no need to book, although if you do know you're going to attend please feel free to message Mrs Day so we have enough cake!
send@williammorris.bluekitetrust.org

I have had the privilege of spending more time in the Nurture Nest the past two weeks. It is always wonderful to see how comfortable and engaged the children are; completing interventions, having sensory breaks and completing their work in a calm space.

As I mentioned in the previous newsletter, we are having a Coffee and Catch-up afternoon for SEND parents; a chance to have a cake and a cuppa and speak to fellow SEND parents about the highs and lows of loving a child with SEND, as well sharing any tips and tricks.

Music sessions

A little while ago I approached the wonderful Swindon Music Co-operative regarding some music sessions for some of our children. They have agreed to part fund a weekly session in our Nurture Nest, which started this week. The children had so much fun listening and moving to music, as well as reading musical notation, playing on the djembe and doing body percussion! It was fantastic to see their engagement and enthusiasm!



Yours,

Mrs Day (SENDCo)



COFFEE & A CATCH-UP



SEND parent coffee and catch-up.

What?

An informal chance to meet and chat with other SEND parents, with tea/coffee and biscuits/cake.

When?

Tuesday 21st January

2pm

Drop-in, no need to book, although if you do know you are going to attend, please feel free to message Mrs Day so she buys enough cake!

send@williammorris.bluekitetrust.org



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School Diary

January

Tues 21st 2:00pm SEND Coffee and Catch Up

Tues 28th Y3 African Animal Talk

Tues 28th 2:00—3:00 Lighthouse Managing
Screentime workshop for parents

Wed 29th 10:30: Coffee morning for parents of
autistic children—Goddard Arms

Fri 31st—Explorer Dome—Y3 & Y5

February

Sat 1st PTA Batik workshop

Fri 14th Last day of term

Friday 14th 2:00 Open house

Friday 14th 2:00—Y1 and Y3 Fab Finishes

Mon 24th Feb—TD Day—School closed to children

Tues 25th Feb—First day of term 4

March

Mon 17th—Y4 Sports, Stripes and Scales work-
shop

Tue 25th —Y5 Sports, Stripes and Scales work-
shop

INSET TD DAYS—school closed to children:

6th Jan 2025

24th Feb 2025

23rd May 2025

4th July 2025

[New dates in red]

Don't forget our online **social media accounts:**

Facebook—William Morris Primary School

Instagram—williammorrisprimary

Nursery - Poppy and Daisy Classes

What have we been learning in Nursery?



Wow! What a busy time we have had since being back! We spent last week learning about how to keep our teeth healthy. We talked about tooth brushing twice a day and practised on the pretend teeth in class.

We have been learning about our composer, **Yolanda Brown** and listening to her song '**Something about that noise**'. We spent time listening to the music and exploring how it made us feel. We then used our listening ears to move up and down to the music as it went high and low. We thoroughly enjoyed making our own instruments; shakers, guitars and drums and made a brilliant display.

This week we started our topic of 'Big Wide World'. We have been learning the story "We're Going on Bear Hunt" and joining in with the repeated refrains. The children have been telling the story using props and really enjoyed drawing large scale story maps. Daisy and Poppy class went on a bear hunt together on the field and had the best time squelching in the mud!

Reminders:

- Please ensure that all belongings are clearly marked with your child's name.
- Please ensure that if your child is bringing a packed lunch that it does not contain items with nuts e.g. cereal bars or spreads.
- If your child attends 30hours they need to bring a **fruit or vegetable** snack every day and it needs to be taken out of lunch boxes and put in the **snack box** each morning.
- Please ensure all children have spare clothes including pants/knickers, trousers, socks and t-shirt. Our nursery supplies are running very low!

The Nursery Team :)



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Nursery - Poppy and Daisy Classes





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Nursery - Poppy and Daisy Classes



Reception - Sunflower and Bellflower Classes

What have we been learning in Reception?



Welcome back to Term 3 and what a busy and exciting time we have had!

We started our learning this term with an exciting hook, on the first Monday back, the children discovered a crime scene! There was hay, bricks and sticks everywhere and the children had to investigate what had happened. As you can imagine it was great fun! From this the children have been producing some amazing writing, using the new sounds we have been learning in phonics.

In Maths we have been looking at numbers above 10 and up to 15. The children have been fantastic at seeing the tens and ones in each number, they have absolutely blown us away :) We have been practising our careful counting with a range of different objects and games.

Additionally, this week we spent some time exploring a famous composer. In Reception our composer to study was Camille Saint Saens. We listened to different pieces of music called 'The Carnival of the Animals' and talked about how it made us feel or what we thought about when we listened to it. We also created artwork based on the themes of his music, animals.

This term we have started a new dance unit in PE, the children have loved exploring the sea creatures theme and beginning to put sequences of movements together to create an original dance. Please support your child to continue to be independent when dressing themselves at home.

Thank you for your continued support,

EYFS team :)

Reminders:

- Please ensure all clothing is named, we know the children are growing and we are finding lots and lots of clothes unlabelled – this makes changing from PE clothes into school clothes a bit difficult.
- Please ensure that you record all reading (Little Wandle, library and other books) and phonics practise at home. Lots of children have now received their first reading bookmark awards and it would be fantastic to see more children achieving them this term in our Friday assembly. For children to make good progress with phonics and achieve fluency when reading they should be reading at home at least x5 a week. Little and often is best.



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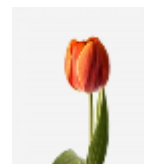
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Reception—Bellflower and Sunflower Classes



Year 1 - Lily and Tulip Classes

What have we been learning in Year 1?



Welcome back to Term 3. The whole school kicked off this term by doing some learning about composers and musicians, in Year 1 we learned about the music of Beethoven and Queen. We are also very excited in to start our new topic of Superheroes. We will be learning a Superhero dance later this term ready to show you at our end of term Fab Finish, where we will also be sharing our amazing work from this term with you. We hope that you can make it.

In English, we have read the story of Traction Man and we have learned a version of the story, called 'Traction Man and the Scruffy Dog', using actions, story mapping and by completing a close. Now that we have learned the story, we will begin to innovate some of the characters and settings to create our own versions of the story over the next few weeks. We look forward to sharing these with you.

In Maths, we have been learning about addition. We have been recognising how parts combine to make a whole and learning how to represent this in equations (eg. $4 + 2 = 6$). When describing the equations we have learned the technical phrases 'addend + addend = sum'. We have been using lots of different resources to help us to do this such as counting sticks, part-part-whole diagrams, double sided counters and number lines.

In our Computing lessons, each child has taken a picture of themselves doing a cool superhero pose. We have then used the ipads to draw capes and masks onto our pictures and then add a sound to them. We will be adding backgrounds to these pictures and using them to create our own e-books over the next few weeks.

In PE, we have started some gymnastics lessons where we have been learning to control our body movements, focussing on be able to make ourselves tall or low to the ground as we move. In our outdoor PE lessons, we have been practising sending and receiving by rolling and throwing a ball towards targets.

Our learning in Science is about the seasons, and we will learn how the changes in seasons affect trees, animals, the weather and the amount of sunlight in a day.

Please continue to read with your child at home and write in their reading records. Your support at home with reading really does make a difference.

PE Kits- Please ensure your child's PE kit is in school and is complete. Please also make sure everything is named.

Thank you for the continued support and we are looking forward to the exciting term ahead.

Year 1 Team :)



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Year 1 - Lily and Tulip Classes



SUPERHERO DRAWING



Part+part=
whole



Part+part= whole

Maths



Part+part= whole



Part+part=
whole

PIC-COLLAGE



Dreams and Goals

WHAT HAVE YOU ACHIEVED THAT YOU ARE PROUD OF?



PIC-COLLAGE

Year 2 - Clover and Willow Classes

What have we been learning in Year 2?



This term, we have started a fascinating new topic called '*Marvellous Monarchs*'. We've been learning about the different types of power monarchs have had throughout history. We had a lot of fun discussing how much power they would want if they were famous monarchs, and many agreed they would choose absolute power :) They even imagined the laws they would make if they were royalty, and it's safe to say we would have many magnificent Kings and Queens in Year 2!

In Science, we've begun exploring the topic of '*Human Survival*'. We've already learned about the human lifecycle and why exercise is so important for the body. To make it even more exciting, we've started a 10-day exercise challenge where we are trying to improve our plank times. The challenge is a fun way for us to push ourselves and track our progress.

In PE, we've been focusing on the skills of '*Sending and Receiving*', which involves using communication and teamwork. In gymnastics, we've been practicing the fundamentals, like creating different balances and shapes with our bodies. We've also been using gym equipment, such as benches and boxes, to improve our balances, while learning how to stay safe and coach our teammates.

In Maths, we've been working hard on multiplication and division. We've been using counters to create arrays and discovering that multiplication is commutative. This week, we also started learning about division and how to share things equally into groups to find our answers.

In English, our new model text is a non-chronological report about '*King William of Tadpole!*' The children have been enjoying creating, learning and performing our Talk for Writing actions to help remember the text. Next week, we will begin innovating our reports, so it's time to get our creative hats on.

To get ready for our upcoming marvellous Monarch activities, please could you bring in any boxes you have spare at home to help us prepare for castle making. Thank you in advance.

We are looking forward to another exciting week of learning ahead!

We hope you have a lovely weekend,

Miss Presdee and Miss Morgan



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Year 2 - Clover and Willow Classes



Year 2 - Clover and Willow Classes



BALANCING AND JUMPING



WE USED THE BENCHES TO HOLD OUR BALANCES



Year 3 - Honeysuckle and Rose Classes

What have we been learning in Year 3?



We have had a fantastic return to school this New Year. The children love our new topic, 'One Planet, Our World' and are so engaged with all the geographical learning we have been doing. We have become mini map experts not only looking at four-grid references and compass points but also learning counties, cities and the countries of the United Kingdom.

In English we are focusing on a lovely story called 'Taking Flight', this is actually a short film available online, so be sure to check it out with your children and they can tell you all the things we have been working on in English lessons. Next week we will move on to innovating the story to make it our own so we cannot wait to see the children's own adventures they create.

We have had a hard 2 weeks in maths looking at fractions in year 3. We have loved using some new fantastic maths equipment and it has made our lessons lots of fun. We have enjoyed working in pairs or groups using magnetic fraction pieces to share varying quantities of pizza or cake. We were very impressed with the children's ability in these lessons. Next week we move on to our new unit, column addition and subtraction.

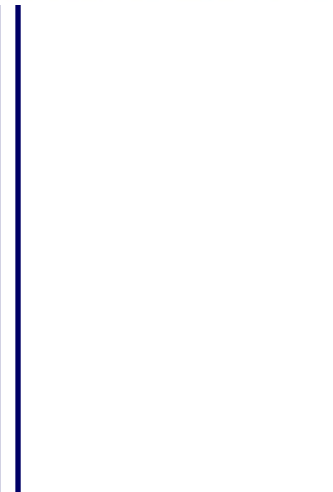
We were very lucky this week to have a visitor from the local council to talk to us about 'clean air'. We learnt lots about how to improve our local environment and how clean air is so important for us all. Ask us what hints and tips we learnt, keep an eye on any of the electronic noticeboards around Swindon as we all had a go at writing a persuasive 15-word slogan to be displayed.

We are looking forward to our local walk next week where we will be not only looking at physical and human features in the local community but also thinking about some of our science topics when we visit the park, where would friction be as we whizz down the slide? Thank you for all of the offers of help for the walk we had so many kind volunteers, we now have enough adults to ensure we can run the trip safely.

Just one more thing to inform you about, our PE days are now Monday and Wednesday but as before, children are welcome to leave their PE kits in school.

Many thanks, Year 3 Team

Year 3 - Honeysuckle and Rose Classes



Year 4 - Apple and Blackberry Classes

What have we been learning in Year 4?



Welcome to Term 3!

We have had an incredible start to Term 3, diving into our fascinating new topic: **Traders and Raiders!** From exploring the lives of the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings, to crafting our own Anglo-Saxon jewellery, the children have been fully immersed in this exciting historical period.

To kick things off, we explored a timeline of significant dates, mapping key events to understand the influence of these powerful traders and raiders. We even stepped back in time during our immersive Viking experience. Sitting in our very own Viking longhouse, we enjoyed 'mead' (apple juice) and bread while listening to captivating Viking stories.

We also enjoyed learning about our composers and creating new corridor wall displays.

In English, we have been delving into the epic tale of *Beowulf*. The children have loved learning this classic story of heroism and bravery, creating story maps to help them retell it with confidence and flair. We will use this knowledge to inspire our own exciting writing later this term.

Our science lessons have been full of energy – quite literally! We have been investigating electrical circuits and learning how to create our own switches. The children have shown brilliant problem-solving skills as they experimented with completing and breaking circuits to understand how they work.

This term, P.E. sessions are on **Thursday** and **Friday**. On Thursdays, we are enjoying the fast-paced game of tag rugby, while Fridays offer a change of pace with calming and mindful yoga sessions. Please ensure your child has their full P.E. kit in school on these days and appropriate outdoor clothing for tag rugby.

We are looking forward to all the exciting learning and discoveries this term!

The Year 4 Team



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Year 4 - Apple and Blackberry Classes



Year 4 - Apple and Blackberry Classes



Year 5 - Thistle and Acorn Classes

What have we been learning in Year 5?



David Bowie Day!

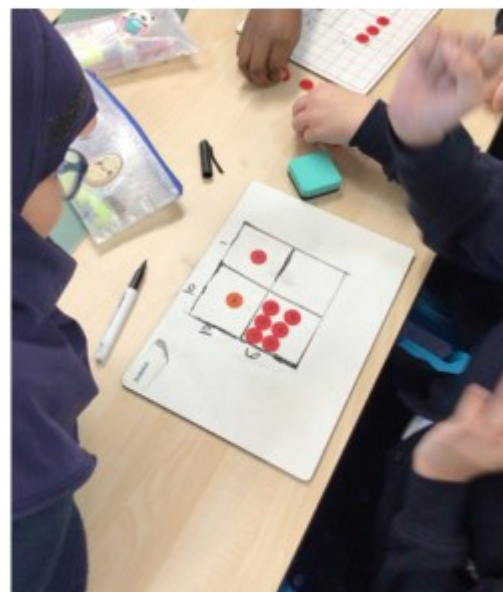
To kickstart Term 3, we dove into the fascinating world of the legendary David Bowie! We explored his incredible life and achievements, learning all about his music, unique style, and creative energy. As part of the fun, we created detailed fact files packed with interesting information about his career and colourful personality. To really channel our inner Bowie, we made vibrant collages inspired by his bold and iconic looks. It was an exciting and artistic way to celebrate his legacy and start the term with creativity and flair!



Year 5 Thistle and Acorn Classes

Mighty Multiplication!

At the start of term, we have been using resources to strengthen our understanding of long and short multiplication. Using brand-new counters has really helped us grasp the value of numbers by physically multiplying them together. This hands-on approach made it much easier to see how multiplication works. By the end of the lesson, we were excited to apply these skills to more challenging problems in the future!



Year 5 Thistle and Acorn Classes

Stargazers!

Miss Naylor and Mrs Lamber kicked off our new topic with an exciting demonstration of the phases of the moon. During the lesson, we learned the names of the different phases, such as the new moon, full moon, and crescent moon. Using a light source to represent the sun, they showed us how the moon orbits the Earth and how the light reflects off its surface to create the phases we see in the sky. It was a fun and fascinating way to understand how the moon changes throughout the month.



After this, we explored the sizes of the planets with a fun demonstration. We compared the planets and saw just how different they are in size, from tiny Mercury to the giant Jupiter. It was amazing to see the huge differences and understand how each planet is unique in our solar system. This activity really helped us picture the scale of the planets and made learning about space even more exciting!



Wellies and Waterproofs

We would like to kindly remind all parents and guardians of the requirement for accessing the field during play and lunchtime. In order to ensure the children's safety and comfort in varying weather conditions, it is essential that they are equipped with waterproof clothing and wellies at all times.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

TIKTOK

RESTRICTION
13+
(Certain features are restricted to over-18s only)

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Adults tend to associate online videos with YouTube – but among teens, TikTok is king. The app provides a stream of short clips tailored to users' interests, based on what they've already watched. Around half of British children use TikTok, and while much of the content is benign, Ofcom considers it the app where youngsters "were most likely to encounter a potential harm".

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

While TikTok's Following feed only displays videos from familiar creators, For You is a collection based on a user's previously watched clips. Most of these videos will probably be inoffensive, but the app could potentially show something unsuitable. If children then engage with this content, more like it will follow. TikTok's guidelines prohibit the sharing of illegal or inappropriate content, but the huge number of uploads means that a small amount inevitably slips through.

BODY IMAGE AND DANGEROUS CHALLENGES

According to Ofcom, most online harms for teens are body image related for girls (promoting unhealthy eating, body shaming and so on) and dangerous stunts for boys. Both are prevalent on TikTok. One extreme example of the latter was the 'blackout' trend, which encouraged users to hold their breath until they passed out from a lack of oxygen. This led to two families filing lawsuits against TikTok over the tragic deaths of their children.

IN-APP SPENDING

TikTok is free, but users have the option to buy TikTok coins, which can be used to purchase gifts for content creators. Coin bundles range from £9.99 to an eye-watering £99, while that may not sound appealing, the app still generated £7.9 billion in user spending in 2023. TikTok's policy is that under-18s can't make in-app purchases, but it's possible to bypass this with a fake birth date.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

With more than 1.5 billion users globally, the potential for contact from strangers on TikTok is high – especially as accounts created by over-16s (or young people using a false date of birth) are set to public by default. This means that not only is someone's profile visible to everyone else on the app, it also suggests their videos to others and enables anyone to download or comment on them.

MISINFORMATION AND RADICALISATION

Although the short videos on TikTok tend to be more frivolous than the longer ones on YouTube, clips can still influence impressionable minds in a negative way. Not only is there plenty of dangerous misinformation on TikTok, but Ofcom reports that nearly a third of 12 to 15-year-olds use TikTok as a news source – so you should be wary of misogynistic, racist or conspiracy-themed material shaping how they see the world.

ADDICTIVE DESIGN

With its constant stream of eye-catching videos, TikTok can be addictive to young brains. In 2024, UK children spent an average of 127 minutes per day on the app: that's twice as much as in 2020. Excessive use can interfere with young people's sleep patterns – often leading to irritability – and distract them from other, healthier activities. The instantly skippable nature of bite-size videos may also impact children's ability to maintain focus.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

Family Pairing allows parents to link their TikTok account to their child's, and control settings remotely. Parents can then turn on Restricted Mode (reducing the chances of a child seeing inappropriate content), set screen-time limits, make accounts private and manage whether their child can send messages – and if they can, to whom. Children can't alter these settings without parental approval.

DISCUSS THE DANGERS

If a child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's good practice to discuss the potential risks. Ensure that they don't share any identifying personal information, and that they know to talk to a trusted adult if they're worried by interactions on the app. With more teens using TikTok for news, it's also worth talking about misinformation and propaganda, and how to identify it.

BLOCK IN-APP SPENDING

If a child is using an iPhone or Android device to access TikTok, you can alter their settings to prevent them from making in-app purchases. We'd recommend enabling this feature, as it can be quite easy for a young person to spend a significant amount of real money buying TikTok coins to unlock more features of the app – sometimes without even realising.

READ THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that a child is spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the signs. Increased irritability and a lack of concentration are potential red flags, as is failing to complete homework or skipping meals. Remember, the parental controls are there for a reason, and it's never too late to introduce limits.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/tiktok-2025>

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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 15.01.2025

Neurodiversity Parent 101:

What reasonable adjustments can a school provide for a child with ADHD

Adjustments need to be tailored to the specific needs of the child. While the following are some examples, this needs to be child centred. Some children with ADHD also may have other challenges with writing or spelling for example which may also need to be considered.

Reasonable adjustments for children and young people with ADHD

- Classroom positioning – some children will benefit being placed near the teacher so they can prompt them if they lose focus. Some children are less distracted if they are placed away from the main pathway of 'traffic' in the classroom.
- Some children finding sitting still for a long period harder to do – allowing your child to be able to move can be helpful. Some children find a 'wobble cushion' helpful.
- Assistance by school staff with organisation and planning.
- Use of timers and alarms to help with time management.
- Extra time in assignments or examinations.
- A separate room in exams so the young person can stand/stretch can be helpful. Allowing movement breaks during an exam or lesson can aid focus and attention.
- Some young people find cutting out or listening to some music aids concentration – being allowed to wear headphones when focusing on work can be helpful.
- Some young people find sitting in a study carrel or booth is less distracting when trying to focus on a piece of work.
- Use of technology to aid organisation and time management.
- A reduction in the volume of homework/assignment.
- Providing a sample of homework or an assignment can help the young person see what is expected.
- Breaking down tasks into steps.
- Provision of fidget toys, allow use of a doodle pad.
- Provision of notes so they can be annotated.

UPCOMING EVENT DATES



SWINDON COFFEE MORNING

Support for Parents and Carers of Autistic Children - No Diagnosis Required

Our drop in group for parents and carers of autistic children (no diagnosis required). Come along and meet our Peer Educators and others who are there to listen, support, share experiences and offer signposting if needed.

No need to book, just turn up!

Goddard Arms, Old Town
Swindon, SN1 3EG

Located in the semi-private area to the right as you walk in the main front door.



**Wednesday
29th January
10:30-12:30**

UPCOMING EVENT DATES



SWINDON COFFEE MORNING

Who are we and what to expect?

Bristol Autism Support is the south west regional hub for Autism Central. One of our main aims is to connect parents and carers of autistic people with each other. We want to create supportive safe spaces where we can share information with no judgement. Our in person coffee mornings are casual opportunities to meet other parents and carers along with our team of Peer Educators. We also share information about the free support and resources that Autism Central provide.

This month we are pleased to be joined by SEND Community Connected. They are a local group consisting of parents/carers of SEND children who are working to connect with other SEND Families.



If you are looking to share experiences, make new friends, or maybe need some advice and support, please drop in for a drink (on us) and a chat. For more information please email kam.deller@bristolautismsupport.org



Our Swindon meet up is hosted by Kam, who is a Peer Educator for Bristol Autism Support/ Autism Central





Managing Screen Time Workshop

Join us for a session to learn more about achieving a balanced approach to screen time with practical tips to try. No booking needed, just come along!

Tuesday 28th January 2-3pm
William Morris Primary (SN25 2PP)

Early Intervention
LIGHTHOUSE

LIGHTHOUSE DROP IN

Lighthouse is the Early Intervention Team working within all Blue Kite Academy Trust schools. Lighthouse holds drop-in sessions at our school once a month - you will meet one of the team to have a short, informal, 1-1 chat about anything causing worry or stress in your home. This could be around behaviour, sleep, struggling to manage emotions/anxiety or concerns around finance, cost of living or similar. Drop in sessions give you the chance to get some advice from the experienced team. They can support you to take those next steps or signpost you to services who can also help. Lighthouse are a friendly team with lots of knowledge to share so please book in to see them if you feel they could help.

Please speak to a member of staff if you have any further questions. Book in via the school office. You can also follow us on Instagram @Lighthouse_bluekitetrust

